

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: November 13, 2025

PREPARED BY: Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk

SUBJECT: RATIFICATION OF LETTER SUPPORTING THE COLLEGE OF THE
DESERT'S PROPOSED BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE IN CASINO
AND INTEGRATED RESORT MANAGEMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

Ratify the issuance of the letter supporting College of the Desert's proposed Bachelor of Arts in Casino and Integrated Resort Management degree program and its submission to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

College of the Desert has proposed a new Bachelor of Arts degree in Casino and Integrated Resort Management to address workforce shortages in the Coachella Valley's hospitality and resort sectors. The program is designed to provide locally accessible, four-year degree opportunities that prepare students for leadership and management roles in casino and resort operations.

The letter was addressed to Chancellor Sonya Christian and the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and issued on October 24, 2025. The City Council Subcommittee on Governmental Affairs reviewed and approved the issuance of the letter in advance of formal ratification by the City Council.

Legal Review:

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney's Office.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact associated with this action.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Letter of Support – College of the Desert